Utah NAHRO

QUARTERLY REPORT- September, 2014

**Conference**

This year the Utah NAHRO Annual Conference in St. George Utah that was held on April 22-24, 2014.  Ninety-eight individuals attended the conference representing 44 different organizations 15 of which were from small or rural agencies.  In conjunction with the conference we offered a Hearing Professional Development training which had 25 in attendance from 11 different organizations.  All request for scholarships were awarded.  We were able to provided five scholarships.  We had a total of 24 sponsors and met all financial goals.

**Training**

The Housing Authority of Salt Lake City offered a NAHRO Executive Management and Board Relations training to all housing authorities in Utah.  Jim Inglis conducted the training.  It was an excellent training and well attended.  We are planning to hold an Executive Management and Leadership training in November.

**State Legislative**

We are contracting with a consultant to provide assistance with upcoming legislative session.  The consultant will be working on the following:

* Monitor legislation and budget actions affecting affordable and fair housing.
* Work with local government leaders to maintain commitment to low-income housing or set asides in CDAs and RDAs
* Work to oppose a push by the Utah Apartment Association to remove source of income as a protected class.
* Assist homeless service providers in advocating for funding.
* Work to assure greater transparency and opportunity for involvement for low-income housing in the Utah Transit Authority process of building TODs.

**Housing America**

We have sent Utah members NAHRO's request for events or common practices to help improve the lives of resident and community members.  We also sent out information on the poster contest but only had 1 response.   I would love additional ideas for this October.

Wyoming NAHRO

QUARTERLY REPORT- September, 2014

1. Recent Meetings:

The WyoNAHRO Board of Directors and several other interested persons met on September 10 to begin 2015 conference planning.  An initial  conference agenda was drafted, assignments were made to develop content for the chosen conference tracks – Community Development, Housing Development, Homeless/Special Needs, and Rental Housing Management.

1. 2015 Conference Date and Location

The Conference will be held at the Ramkota Best Western in Casper, Wyoming all day on Thursday April 23rd and until noon on Friday April 24th.

1. State Legislative Activity

None to report

1. Housing America Plans or Activities

The initial campaign was completed. Additional campaigns are not yet planned.

1. New Programs

The homeless CoC continues to evolve under the leadership of the State of Wyoming and a new Board of Directors.  Wyoming’s first 10 Year Plan to end Homelessness, “The Wyoming Road Home”, will be finalized and released in October and along with the Consolidated Plan will be a lunch discussion topic during the 2015 WyoNAHRO Conference.

1. Other State Issues or Comments on the “State of the State”

See #5 above.

South Dakota NAHRO

QUARTERLY REPORT

SD NAHRO and its partner ND NAHRO were pleased to host Mountain Plains NAHRO 2014 Annual Conference in Deadwood, SD, June 16-18. “ReThink, ReTool, ReEnergize” offered a number of provocative educational and social events, truly appreciated by its nearly one hundred conference attendees. We were delighted to welcome esteemed past and current national NAHRO presidents Betsey Martens and Preston Prince. They served the conference well through their hard work and inspirational message.

The conference also extended a “fond farewell” to long time NAHRO leader Sherry Scudder. After forty-five years of dedicated service to the public housing industry, the Executive Director of Meade-Butte-Lawrence County Housing ended her professional career to begin an “active” retirement. A banquet honoring her service was shared by family and friends, along with lots of laughter, music, and heartfelt words of thanks. Sherry will certainly be missed by all of us who benefitted from her wisdom, and her kindness, for so many years.

South Dakota NAHRO held its Annual Meeting in Deadwood on June 17, 2014. In a non-election year, no changes were made in the chapter leadership. The membership took action to sponsor the nomination of Dianne Hovdestad, Deputy Director of Sioux Falls Housing, for consideration to be named a 2014 NAHRO Fellow.

With many of South Dakota’s thirty-five Public Housing Authorities representing small constituencies in rural settings, interest was piqued at the federal notice regarding consortia, announced this past summer. However, after researching South Dakota state statute, it was learned that it is not legal for PHAs to operate outside their area of jurisdiction, according to SD Attorney General opinion #91-11.

Although there are undoubtedly new public housing projects “in the works” or recently launched in South Dakota communities, the most recent took place in Mitchell. On September 25, a dedication ceremony and open house was held to introduce The Landings, Mitchell’s newest apartment community. Primarily financed through federal tax credits, the complex consists of 31 two and three bedroom apartment homes, of which 27 to be offered through income level eligibilities. Developer Antach Management Corporation of Madison, Wisconsin, worked in in close partnership with Mitchell Housing Authority, the managing agency, to bring the project to fruition. Tammy Frost serves as Executive Director of the Mitchell Housing Authority. The PHA also owns the 112 unit Meadowlawn Plaza and administers a Section 8 program.

Respectfully submitted,

John Stengle

Chapter President

Colorado NAHRO

QUARTERLY REPORT- September, 2014

Colorado NAHRO held is annual conference May 19-23 in Grand Junction, Colorado. “Embracing the Challenge” offered a two-day Maintenance Conference on Monday and Tuesday, May 19-20, followed by the two and a half day Management Conference on Wednesday through Friday, May 21-23. The Maintenance Conference featured three tracks of training session and was attended by 100 people from around Colorado. The Management Conference featured seven tracks of workshops and featured motivational speaker and Denver Bronco football legend Karl Mecklenburg as the keynote speaker. The Management Conference was delighted to have NAHRO President, Preston Prince, participate in a variety of speaking roles including: *The National Outlook on Housing and Community Development; An Open Forum with HUD and NAHRO; and the Role of PHAs in Ending Homelessness*. The conference also featured the NAHRO Commissioner Fundamentals Training conducted by Joan Smith, a NAHRO license program trainer from Lakewood, Colorado. Over 200 people attended the Management Conference. The combined event exceeded budgeted goals in terms of attendance and sponsorship.

Colorado NAHRO has been busy preparing for a Housing America event, the *First Annual Legislator of the Year Award and Celebration*, which takes place October 6 in Lakewood, Colorado. CoNAHRO plans to feature some of its best practices at the event and will honor Congressman Ed Perlmutter as the award winner. A variety of stakeholders, press, industry partners and Colorado NAHRO members are expected to attend.

Montana NAHRO

QUARTERLY REPORT- September, 2014

1. Recent meetings – Montana NAHRO has had a series of telephone meetings to discuss the possibility of a state conference and the site selection for the Mountain Plains Regional conference in 2015.
2. 2015 Regional Conference – the Mountain Plains Regional conference will be held in conjunction with the Montana NAHRO conference in June 2015 in Bozeman.
3. State Legislative Activity – none
4. Housing America Activities – Montana NAHRO sponsored the Housing America poster contest. Only two housing authorities participated. Walmart gift cards were given to all who entered the contest and the first, second, and third place winners received gift cards in a higher amount.
5. New Programs – none
6. Other State Issues – The eastern part of Montana continues to struggle with a severe lack of affordable housing due to the oil boom in North Dakota. The city of Billings is feeling the effects of the housing crisis also.

Revonda Stordahl

Montana NAHRO President